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NSC BRIEFING

INDONESIA

- I. Cabinet reshuffle announced by Sukarno on Wednesday falls far short of anti-leftist changes desired by army and earlier hinted at by cabinet ministers and Sukarno himself.
 - A. Foreign Minister Subandrio, however, has told US ambassador army is still pressing for further changes and that those changes will be made eventually.
 - B. He claims that Communist strength on Java prohibited drastic steps at this time, when Java's troop strength depleted by operations in Sumatra and Celebes.
 1. Also says Menslay news report and Pope case made major changes difficult.
- II. Cabinet changes involve removal of one minister, abolition of two ministries but retention of incumbents in other posts, and addition of three new posts.
 - A. Only significant change is "demotion" of leftist Hanafi; formerly Minister of Manpower Mobilization and now Minister without portfolio.
 1. Hanafi will probably be less useful to Communists in present ill-defined position.
 - B. Additions appear to be pro-Sukarno rather than pro-Army, thus strengthening president's position.
 - C. Apparently Sultan of Jogjakarta had originally accepted trade Ministry but backed out at last minute, probable because cabinet changes too minor.

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